

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5 are amended. Support for the amendments to the claims is found in the originally filed disclosure, including the drawings at least in Figs. 2-3 and 9-10. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. 7,305,170 (Okada) in view of U.S. 6,021,250 (Hyodo) and U.S. 5,479,303 (Suzuki).

A personal interview was conducted with Examiner Zhao on July 29, 2010, to discuss the claimed invention in light of the Office Action. Applicants thank the Examiner for his time and comments at the interview.

At the interview, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, was discussed. The Examiner indicated that amendments to the claims consistent with those presented herewith would overcome the rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Further, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) was discussed at the interview. In particular, the aspects of the claimed invention regarding the contiguous header area (previously claimed as the management area) and the contiguous data area. Specifically, clarifying amendments were discussed regarding the header area being contiguous and including the access block size information for each access block and output time information for a leading frame of each access block, whereas the data area, which is also contiguous,

includes size information for frames other than the leading frame and output time information for the frames other than the leading frame along with each access block.

The Examiner indicated that, in the context of the data area and header areas each being contiguous (and the information included in each of these areas),¹ the rejections over Okada, Hyodo and Suzuki appear to be overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Further to this point, Applicants respectfully submit none of the art of record discloses the claimed contiguous data and header areas. In particular, none of the art of record describes a contiguous header area as having recorded therein an access block size information for each access block and output time information or leading frame for each access block, where the contiguous data area has recorded therein size information for frames other than the leading frame and output time information for the frames on the leading frame along with each access block of content.

Since none of the art of record discloses or reasonably suggests these features, either individually or in combination, it is respectfully submitted the pending claims are allowable over the art of record.

¹ See, e.g., Figures 2-3 and 9-10.

Consequently, since no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner disagree, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss any remaining issues. Otherwise, a timely notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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